



Department of Homeland Security Daily Open Source Infrastructure Report for 04 May 2007

Current
Nationwide
Threat Level is

ELEVATED
SIGNIFICANT RISK OF
TERRORIST ATTACKS

[For info click here](http://www.dhs.gov/)

<http://www.dhs.gov/>

Daily Highlights

- The Associated Press reports the mysterious killer that is wiping out many of the nation's honeybees could have a devastating effect on America's food; about one-third of the human diet comes from insect-pollinated plants, and the honeybee is responsible for 80 percent of that pollination. (See item [18](#))
- HealthDay reports two months after it triggered the largest pet food recall in U.S. history, a key Canadian manufacturer has widened its recall once again on the threat of cross-contamination in some products processed at any Menu Food plant during the period in which contaminated wheat gluten was in that plant. (See item [22](#))

DHS Daily Open Source Infrastructure Report *Fast Jump*

Production Industries: [Energy](#); [Chemical Industry and Hazardous Materials](#); [Defense Industrial Base](#)

Service Industries: [Banking and Finance](#); [Transportation and Border Security](#); [Postal and Shipping](#)

Sustenance and Health: [Agriculture](#); [Food](#); [Water](#); [Public Health](#)

Federal and State: [Government](#); [Emergency Services](#)

IT and Cyber: [Information Technology and Telecommunications](#); [Internet Alert Dashboard](#)

Other: [Commercial Facilities/Real Estate, Monument & Icons](#); [General](#); [DHS Daily Report Contact Information](#)

Energy Sector

Current Electricity Sector Threat Alert Levels: Physical: ELEVATED, Cyber: ELEVATED

Scale: LOW, GUARDED, ELEVATED, HIGH, SEVERE [Source: ISAC for the Electricity Sector (ES-ISAC) – <http://www.esisac.com>]

1. *May 02, Department of Energy* — **DOE does not accept SPR bids and suspends plans for future purchases.** The U.S. Department of Energy's Office of Fossil Energy has rejected all offers received from the second solicitation issued this spring that sought to purchase up to four million barrels of crude oil for the United States' crude oil reserve. Both solicitations resulted in no awards because the Department determined that the bids were too high and not a reasonable value for taxpayers. The solicitations for the purchase of crude oil were meant to replace oil

sold on an emergency basis after Hurricane Katrina caused significant damage to the production, distribution, and refining capabilities of the oil industry in the Gulf Coast region. The Government planned to use proceeds of \$584 million from the emergency sale for the purchase of crude oil. The Department plans to suspend direct purchases of oil for the Strategic Petroleum Reserve (SPR) until at least the end of the summer driving season.

Source: <http://www.energy.gov/news/5035.htm>

2. *May 01, Department of Energy* — **Department of Energy releases updated report tracking resurgence of coal-fired power plants.** A newly released Department of Energy report shows that many power producers are turning to coal as the most economic and abundant national resource for electricity generation. The report, titled Tracking New Coal-Fired Power Plants, was developed by the Office of Fossil Energy's National Energy Technology Laboratory (NETL) to provide a snapshot of coal's resurgence in the generation of electric power. The report found that one hundred forty-five gigawatts of new coal-capacity are projected to be needed by 2030 according to the Energy Department's Energy Information Administration. Ninety gigawatts of new coal-fired power plants are under consideration or have recently become operational. If built, the plants will be critical in helping to meet future electricity demand in the United States. The new and proposed plants would theoretically produce enough electricity to power 90 million homes.

Report: <http://www.netl.doe.gov/coal/refshelf/ncp.pdf>

Source: http://www.fe.doe.gov/news/techlines/2007/07030-DOE_Updates_Power_Plants_Report.html

[[Return to top](#)]

Chemical Industry and Hazardous Materials Sector

3. *May 01, TMJ4 (WI)* — **Milwaukee chemical spill prompts evacuation.** Hazmat crews were called to the scene of a hazardous materials spill at 31st and Mill Rd. in Milwaukee Tuesday morning, May 1. Fire and police crews closed several blocks of street on the north side as they cleared the mess at Twinco Romax, a company that produces window cleaner and pool chemicals. One-hundred gallons of hydrochloric acid was accidentally dumped into a 5-gallon vat of sodium hydrochloric acid during a delivery. The reaction between the two chemicals created chlorine gas, which is highly toxic. One employee was injured and taken to the hospital. Twinco Romax and several other businesses in the area were evacuated.

Source: <http://www.todaystmj4.com/news/local/7274716.html>

[[Return to top](#)]

Defense Industrial Base Sector

4. *May 02, CongressDaily* — **House panel cuts \$867 million from future combat program.** The House Armed Services Air and Land Forces Subcommittee on Wednesday, May 2, unanimously agreed to slice \$867 million from the Army's top technology transformation program, despite concerns expressed by several members that doing so would devastate the service's modernization efforts. The cut in the Future Combat Systems — equivalent to roughly

25 percent of the Pentagon's request for the program and far larger than previous congressional budget cuts — came during the panel's markup of its portion of the fiscal 2008 defense authorization bill.

Source: http://www.govexec.com/story_page.cfm?articleid=36791&dcn=to_daysnews

5. *April 27, Aviation Week* — **Western navies eye new tech to defeat mines.** Unmanned and autonomous underwater vehicles are playing a greater role in the technology and tactics of mine countermeasures, even as Western navies evaluate different ways of dealing with these weapons. The U.S. Navy, for example, is embracing new concepts such as modular capabilities incorporated as an organic part of the combat system of major warships and submarines, while getting rid of many dedicated mine countermeasure (MCM) vessels, particularly the Italian-designed Osprey-class. Most European navies, on the other hand, still put their money on the proven 1980s concept of the dedicated minehunter, despite the complexity and expense, on a cost-per-ton basis, of these vessels. Meanwhile, industries in various parts of the world are proposing their own concepts and technologies for the detection, classification, identification and destruction of mines. Some even claim that a small support vessel and a rigid-hull inflatable boat are all that's needed to take a containerized MCM system to sea and operate it effectively. In all these approaches, unmanned and autonomous underwater vehicles are emerging as critical components of operations.

Source: http://www.aviationweek.com/aw/generic/story_generic.jsp?chanel=dti&id=news/dtMINE0407.xml&headline=Western%20Navies%20Eye%20New%20Tech%20to%20Defeat%20Mines

[[Return to top](#)]

Banking and Finance Sector

6. *May 03, Finextra* — **U.S. contactless cards to hit \$109 million by 2011.** The number of contactless credit and debit cards in circulation in the U.S. is set to increase from 27 million in 2006 to 109 million in 2011, according to research by market intelligence firm Packaged Facts. Total purchase volume in the U.S. with contactless payment cards neared an estimated \$15 billion in 2006 — registering a compound annual growth rate (CAGR) of some 700 percent from 2004 to 2006. Packaged Facts says the number of contactless transactions will rise from 777 million in 2006 to a massive 2.2 billion by 2011. Says Tatjana Meerman, managing editor of Packaged Facts: "Increasing consumer awareness of the technological, safety, and convenience factors inherent in smart cards will only serve to make penetrating the consumer market much easier in the coming years."

Source: <http://finextra.com/fullstory.asp?id=16885>

7. *May 02, Stars and Stripes* — **Navy credit union issues scam warning.** The Navy Federal Credit Union has issued a warning about an Internet scam that directs customers to a Website jarringly similar to the military bank's site. The fake site asks for personal information that is used to steal one's identity, Navy and bank officials said. In one version of the scam, customers receive an e-mail that tells them their Navy Federal Credit Union account is suspended and directs them to a Website where they can provide personal and account information to reactivate their account.

Source: http://www.estripes.com/article.asp?section=104&article=4552_5

8. *May 02, Websense Security Labs* — **Phishing Alert: Blackhawk Community Credit Union.** Websense Security Labs has received reports of a phishing attack that targets customers of Blackhawk Community Credit Union, which is based in Wisconsin. Users receive a spoofed e-mail message stating that their account was temporarily disabled due to three unsuccessful login attempts. The e-mail provides a link to a phishing site which attempts to collect personal and account information.
Source: <http://www.websense.com/securitylabs/alerts/alert.php?AlertID=773>
9. *May 02, British Computer Society (UK)* — **Phishing threat growing, says report.** Phishing tactics are being used more and more to the extent that they have been reclassified as malware rather than spam by many anti-virus firms, according to new research. SoftScan has found that an increase in the proportion of Web traffic identified as malware last month is primarily because more messages were classified as phishing instead of spam. Its scan for April found that 88.93 percent of all emails were spam, with 1.92 percent classified as viruses. Diego d'Ambra of noted that phishing messages were seen as a pest rather than a serious danger to Web users 18 months ago. "Since then phishing has become far more sophisticated and their success rate at finding victims has also increased, making the threat overall far more prevalent," he commented.
Source: <http://www.bcs.org/server.php?show=conWebDoc.11398>
10. *May 02, Naples Daily News (FL)* — **Woman threatens to blow up bank, steals cash.** Lee County sheriff's deputies are searching for a woman they say threatened to blow up a North Fort Myers, FL, bank Wednesday afternoon, May 2, and took off with an unspecified amount of cash. Authorities said the woman walked into the Bank of America at 18800 U.S. 41 shortly before 3:13 p.m. EDT with the threat written on a note. She reportedly left with a man and got into a minivan.
Source: http://www.naplesnews.com/news/2007/may/02/woman_threatens_blow_bank_steals_cash/?breaking_news

[[Return to top](#)]

Transportation and Border Security Sector

11. *May 03, Interfax (Russia)* — **Woman threatening to blow up plane detained at Russia's Volgograd airport.** Volgograd security agencies detained a female passenger of a Tupolev Tu-134 passenger jet who had threatened to set off an explosive device while the plane heading for Volgograd was still in midair. "The incident occurred onboard an aircraft heading from Sheremetyevo [a Moscow airport] to Volgograd at about 11:00 a.m. Moscow time Thursday, May 3. The passenger, a native of Azerbaijan, refused to obey a flight attendant's instruction to fasten her seatbelt before the plane was to descend, locked herself in a toilet, and announced from there that she would blow up the plane," a Volgograd regional law enforcement source told Interfax. The plane landed safely, and the woman was detained at the airport.
Source: http://www.interfax.ru/e/B/politics/28.html?id_issue=11727114
12. *May 03, Boston Globe* — **Boston's Big Dig probe focusing on ceiling epoxy.** Contractors

apparently used the wrong adhesive to install at least some of the bolts in a Big Dig tunnel ceiling that partially collapsed last summer, project records show, prompting criminal investigators to focus on whether the mix-up was a significant factor in the accident that killed a Jamaica Plain woman. Invoices from the 1999 ceiling construction job show that Modern Continental Construction Co. received and apparently used at least one case of a quick-drying epoxy to secure ceiling bolts to the tunnel roof rather than standard epoxy, which the ceiling designers had specified. The distinction was crucial to the safety of the ceiling: The "fast-set" epoxy holds 25 percent less weight than standard epoxy and is not recommended for suspending heavy objects overhead. It is unclear how widespread the use of fast-set epoxy was, since most sales records don't list the epoxy type, but state criminal investigators are looking seriously at the possibility that the weaker epoxy was used in the ceiling section that collapsed when 20 bolts popped out on the night of July 10, 2006, according to representatives of several firms under investigation.

Source: http://www.boston.com/news/traffic/bigdig/articles/2007/05/03/big_dig_job_may_have_used_wrong_epoxy/

13. *May 03, Associated Press* — **Fiery California crash raises issue of trucker licensing.** The man behind the wheel of a tanker truck hauling thousands of gallons of gas that exploded and brought down one of Northern California's most traveled highways had a long arrest sheet. But he still got a license. The fiery crash has thrown a spotlight on the limits of antiterrorism rules that may not prevent people with checkered backgrounds from hauling hazardous materials on highways. The issue surfaced after the explosion and intense fire from driver James Mosqueda's crash Sunday, April 29, caused the collapse of a busy Bay Area highway overpass. Mosqueda cleared an FBI criminal history check and an intelligence review from the Transportation Security Administration (TSA). The TSA said the checks aren't designed to identify people with Mosqueda's type of record, which includes a two-year prison term for a 1996 heroin conviction and other arrests but no terror charges. Joe Come, program director for motor carrier safety for the Department of Transportation Inspector General's Office, said the crash raises a broader issue. "There's a general question of how hard do you want to make it for people to get a commercial driver's license or anything else that can affect public safety," Come said.
- Source: http://www.boston.com/news/nation/articles/2007/05/03/fiery_calif_crash_raises_issue_of_trucker_licensing/

14. *May 03, Arizona Republic* — **More airlines asking passengers to pay for inflight services with plastic.** The typical cumbersome dash for cash by flight attendants and passengers is disappearing on some airlines as technology makes it easier to accept credit and debit cards in flight. Frontier Airlines went cashless last month, joining such carriers as AirTran Airways and Allegiant Air. Hawaiian Airlines stopped accepting cash on its trans-Pacific flights two summers ago. In January, Hawaiian expanded the policy to its interisland shuttles. None of the country's largest carriers has gone that route, but some appear headed that way. A year ago, American Airlines began accepting credit and debit cards in a partnership with American Express after testing the program on select flights. The airline said passengers liked the ability to conserve cash while still being able to buy things on board. And Tempe-based US Airways said the new seatback in-flight Internet and entertainment system it is considering will have a built-in electronic payment system and that it would likely add a companion handheld system for passengers to pay for other items, such as food and cocktails, with plastic. Going cashless also cuts down on theft, industry executives said.

Source: http://www.usatoday.com/travel/flights/2007-05-03-credit-card-payment-inflight_N.htm

15. *May 03, Aero-News Network* — **NTSB issues safety recommendations in aftermath of Gol Airlines collision.** In response to last year's midair collision over Brazil involving a private Embraer Legacy 600 business jet, and a Gol Airlines 737, on Wednesday, May 2, the National Transportation Safety Board issued three safety recommendations geared at solving what the Board calls a "critical safety issue" when traffic collision avoidance systems (TCAS) fail, without the flight crew's knowledge. Gol Airlines flight 1907 plunged into a thick jungle region September 30, about 18 miles from Peixoto de Azevedo, Brazil. All 154 persons onboard the 737-800 were killed; the pilots of the Embraer were able to make an emergency landing following the collision. The NTSB noted the bizjet's transponder was not being received by ATC radar prior to the collision... and such a failure could have compromised safety alerts in the cockpits of both aircraft. "The investigation of this accident is ongoing," the NTSB states in its report, "however, preliminary findings suggest that a critical safety issue exists regarding the loss of functionality of an aircraft's collision avoidance system (comprising a transponder and a traffic alert and collision avoidance system [TCAS] and resulting cockpit warnings to flight crews."

NTSB recommendation letter: http://www.nts.gov/recs/letters/2007/A07_35_37.pdf

Source: <http://www.aero-news.net/index.cfm?ContentBlockID=b3d6afd6-36b2-402d-a14e-ffe855827b14>

16. *May 01, National Transportation Safety Board* — **NTSB issues final report on Manhattan plane crash.** The National Transportation Safety Board (NTSB) on Tuesday, May 1, determined that the probable cause of a small airplane crash in Manhattan last October was the pilots' inadequate planning, judgment, and airmanship in the performance of a 180-degree turn maneuver inside of a limited turning space. On October 11, 2006, a Cirrus Design SR-20, N929CD, operated as a personal flight, crashed into an apartment building in Manhattan, New York City, while attempting a 180-degree turn maneuver above the East River. The two pilots on board the airplane were killed, including the owner of the aircraft, Cory Lidle of the New York Yankees. The second occupant was a commercial pilot with a flight instructor certificate. Three people on the ground were injured, and the airplane was destroyed. "This accident is a great tragedy in which a pleasure flight went horribly wrong and ultimately cost the lives to two young men," said NTSB Chairman Mark Rosenker. "The pilots placed themselves in a precarious situation that could have been prevented by better judgment and planning." In its final report, the Board stated that there were no system, structural or engine malfunctions found. The pilot/owner was properly certificated to fly the accident airplane.

Source: <http://www.nts.gov/Pressrel/2007/070501.htm>

[[Return to top](#)]

Postal and Shipping Sector

Nothing to report.

[[Return to top](#)]

Agriculture Sector

17. *May 02, Southeast Farm Press* — **New technology helps North Carolina strawberries survive freeze.** Unlike other fruit crops, which were heavily damaged, North Carolina's strawberries survived this year's Easter freeze largely unscathed, thanks to a relatively new technology. Many strawberry growers protected their crops with spunbonded polypropylene row covers that look like huge, white blankets, said Barclay Poling, a horticultural science professor and North Carolina Cooperative Extension small fruit specialist at North Carolina State University. These lightweight "blankets" literally float on top of the entire crop and help insulate and protect the berry plants from freezing temperatures. Row covers can be used to protect low-growing crops like strawberries and vegetable transplants, but not grapes, fruit trees and blueberries. Easter weekend was dreadfully cold, and the state's fruit growers, including strawberry producers, were confronted with the prospect of widespread damage. The use of technologies designed for low-growing crops helped the state's strawberry growers preserve almost all the crop, with the exception of some areas of the mountains, where it was brutally cold.
Source: <http://southeastfarmpress.com/news/050207-carolina-strawberries/>
18. *May 02, Associated Press* — **Honeybee die-off threatens food supply.** The mysterious killer that is wiping out many of the nation's honeybees could have a devastating effect on America's dinner plate. About one-third of the human diet comes from insect-pollinated plants, and the honeybee is responsible for 80 percent of that pollination, according to the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA). Even cattle, which feed on alfalfa, depend on bees. Kevin Hackett of USDA's bee and pollination program. "This is the biggest general threat to our food supply," Hackett said. While not all scientists foresee a food crisis, noting that large-scale bee die-offs have happened before, this one seems particularly baffling and alarming. U.S. beekeepers in the past few months have lost one-quarter of their colonies — or about five times the normal winter loss — because of what scientists have dubbed Colony Collapse Disorder. The problem started in November and seems to have spread to 27 states, with similar collapses reported in Brazil, Canada and parts of Europe. Early results of a key study this week point to some kind of disease or parasite. A congressional study said honeybees add about \$15 billion a year in value to the food supply.
Information on Colony Collapse Disorder:
<http://maarec.cas.psu.edu/ColonyCollapseDisorder.html>
Source: <http://www.yahoo.com/s/572333>
19. *May 02, Canadian Food Inspection Agency* — **BSE case confirmed in British Columbia.** The Canadian Food Inspection Agency (CFIA) has confirmed the diagnosis of bovine spongiform encephalopathy (BSE) in a mature dairy cow from British Columbia. The animal's carcass is under CFIA control, and no part of it entered the human food or animal feed systems. Preliminary information indicates that the age of the animal (66 months) falls well within the age range of previous cases detected in Canada and is consistent with the recognized average incubation period of the disease. This signifies that the animal was exposed to a very small amount of infective material, most likely during its first year of life. An epidemiological investigation directed by international guidelines is underway to identify the animal's herdmates at the time of birth and the pathways by which it might have become infected. All findings will be publicly released once the investigation concludes.

Source: http://www.inspection.gc.ca/english/corpaffr/newcom/2007/200_70502e.shtml

20. *May 02, U.S Food and Drug Administration* — **USDA issues order to halt spread of light brown apple moth.** The U.S. Department of Agriculture's (USDA) Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service (APHIS) Wednesday, May 2, implemented a Federal Order to restrict the interstate movement of certain regulated articles, including nursery stock, cut flowers and greenery, from several counties in California and the entire state of Hawaii to prevent the spread of the Light Brown Apple Moth (LBAM), *Epiphyas postvittana*. Under the Federal Order, Alameda, Contra Costa, Marin, Monterey, Santa Clara, Santa Cruz, San Francisco and San Mateo counties in California and all Hawaiian counties must meet certain conditions before shipping articles interstate. APHIS confirmed the presence of LBAM in Alameda County, Calif. on March 22. Surveillance and trapping have since identified the pest in seven additional California counties. The pest destroys, stunts or deforms young seedlings; spoils the appearance of ornamental plants; and injures deciduous fruit-tree crops, citrus and grapes.

Source: <http://www.aphis.usda.gov/newsroom/content/2007/05/lbam.shtml>

21. *April 30, Associated Press* — **Officials work to rid U.S. states of destructive feral swine.** Wild hogs not native to the United States are roaming through at least 39 states and alarming wildlife officials by their population growth in northern states, such as Iowa and Michigan. Feral swine, numbering an estimated 4 million nationwide, can spread disease if they come in contact with domestic pigs. That is a big concern in Iowa, the nation's top pork producer. The rooting and wallowing activities of the creatures, which tear apart the earth to search for food, have also forced some farmers to repeatedly replant fields. While feral swine have plagued warmer states for years, they are a recent problem in Iowa, with wildlife officials working to eradicate them since 2004. About 100 of the animals are thought to be in southern Iowa, and officials said because they are such prolific breeders, 70 percent must be killed off each year just to keep that number in check. Under a national wildlife disease management program, Keirn said researchers will collect and test wild pigs in up to 25 states to look for the presence of classical swine fever.

Source: [http://www.hpj.com/archives/2007/apr07/apr30/Officialsworkto
ridUSstateso.cfm?title=Officials%20work%20to%20rid%20U.S.%20
states%20of%20destructive%20feral%20swine](http://www.hpj.com/archives/2007/apr07/apr30/Officialsworkto%20ridUSstateso.cfm?title=Officials%20work%20to%20rid%20U.S.%20states%20of%20destructive%20feral%20swine)

[[Return to top](#)]

Food Sector

22. *May 03, HealthDay* — **Pet food recall widens again on new concern.** Two months after it triggered the largest pet food recall in U.S. history, a key Canadian manufacturer has widened its recall once again on the threat of cross-contamination in some products. The newest recall involves any pet food processed at any Menu Food plant during the period in which contaminated wheat gluten was in that plant, according to the recall notice issued late Wednesday, May 2. The original recall by the company involved more than 60 million cans and pouches of moist dog and cat food. The new recall, the Streetsville, Ontario company said, includes cuts and gravy and select other products.

Updated list of all recalled products <http://www.menufoods.com>.

Source: <http://health.yahoo.com/news/healthday/petfoodrecallwidensag>

23. *May 02, U.S. Department of Agriculture* — **Galliker Dairy issues product recall on half-gallons of Acidophilus plus reduced fat milk.** Galliker Dairy Company of Johnstown, Pennsylvania, is recalling half-gallon packages of Galliker's Acidophilus Plus Reduced Milk because they possibly contain under-processed milk. Under-processed milk may be unsafe. It has not been shown to be feasible to perform routine bacteriological tests on the raw milk itself to determine the presence or absence of all pathogens and thereby ensure that it is free of infectious organisms. Only products with the code date of May 13, 2007 are involved. The product comes in a 64-ounce (One Half-Gallon), plastic package marked with the code date on the front of the package. No illnesses have been reported to date in connection with this problem.

Source: http://www.fda.gov/oc/po/firmrecalls/galliker05_07.html

[[Return to top](#)]

Water Sector

24. *May 03, Associated Press* — **Investigators: Operator error led to Spencer, Pennsylvania, water contamination.** State officials said workers and a faulty alarm system are to blame for an excess of lye that was released into Spencer, PA's, public water supply last week, leading about 100 people to seek medical treatment. Lye, or sodium hydroxide, is regularly added to the water to help maintain a proper balance of acidity. But Martin Suuberg, a regional director for the state Department of Environmental Protection, said a system that dilutes the chemical was switched from automatic to manual while a leak was being repaired at the town's water treatment plant. Suuberg said two workers failed to switch the system back to automatic, and 34 gallons of undiluted lye went into the water. The operators have been reassigned by the town and temporarily replaced by a private contractor. About 100 residents suffered minor burns or skin rashes from the contamination. The chemical release triggered alarms, but Suuberg said a system that should have alerted other operators to the problem was apparently not working.

Source: <http://news.bostonherald.com/localRegional/view.bg?articleid=198292>

25. *May 03, Sioux City Journal (IA)* — **Impaired waterways list adds 135 bodies of water.** A total of 135 new bodies of water have joined Iowa's 2006 impaired waterways list, released Tuesday, May 1, by officials with the Iowa Department of Natural Resources (DNR). The number jumped to 366 impaired waterways, a rise the DNR attributes to increased monitoring since the last list was prepared two years ago, not necessarily an increase in pollution. DNR Director Rich Leopold said the list is a call to action for Iowans to work to improve water quality in their local rivers and streams. "The list illustrates that we have done more monitoring than in past years, so we've detected more waters with impairments," Leopold said in a statement. "The good news is that most of our impairments are not dangerous or life threatening but indicate that our waters are not as good as they could or should be for the state's aquatic life and for Iowans to drink, to swim in and to play in." The Environmental Protection Agency requires each state to submit a list of impaired waterways every two years. The draft impaired waterways list and information on how the public can comment can be found at:

<http://wqm.igsb.uiowa.edu/WQA/303d.html>

Source: <http://www.siouxcityjournal.com/articles/2007/05/02/news/iow>

[[Return to top](#)]

Public Health Sector

26. *May 03, Reuters* — **Bangladesh says bird flu spreads to more farms.** Bird flu has spread to six more farms in western Bangladesh, forcing authorities to cull thousands of fowl and destroy eggs, government officials said on Thursday, May 3. The latest cases were uncovered on farms in Jessore district, 190 miles west of the capital Dhaka, said a senior official at the Fisheries and Livestock Ministry. Some 9,000 birds were culled at the farms, where thousands of eggs were also buried, officials said. The H5N1 virus was first detected at six farms at Savar near Dhaka on March 22 and the virus has since spread across the country, they said. There have been no cases of human infection.

Source: <http://www.alertnet.org/thenews/newsdesk/DHA335411.htm>

27. *May 02, Reuters* — **First H5N1 case in Ghana confirmed in poultry.** Ghana has suffered its first outbreak of the highly pathogenic H5N1 bird flu at a chicken farm east of the capital Accra, the World Health Organization (WHO) said on Wednesday, May 2. A handful of nearby countries in West Africa have already had outbreaks of the disease among poultry, and the worst-hit, Nigeria, reported sub-Saharan Africa's only confirmed human death from H5N1 early this year. The Ghana outbreak was detected on a farm 13 miles east of Ghana's capital Accra, near the port of Tema, said Dr. Harry Opat, WHO disease prevention and control officer. "We'll assume the whole farm was infected...about 100 chickens a day were dying in the past 3-4 days," he said. Opat said all 1,600 birds on the farm — mostly chickens and a few ducks — had already been incinerated to control the disease.

Source: <http://www.alertnet.org/thenews/newsdesk/L0242608.htm>

28. *May 02, Honolulu Advertiser* — **Hilo Medical Center contends with norovirus outbreak.** Hilo Medical Center in Hawaii is restricting access to a portion of its 112-bed long-term-care facility because of a norovirus outbreak that's infected 13 people, causing bouts of nausea, vomiting and diarrhea. The hospital said it isn't allowing new patients in the 30-bed south wing of the facility and is restricting staff in the ward to only those who regularly work there. John Halloran, Hilo Medical Center infection control officer, said the outbreak started on April 24 and that only two of the 13 remain ill. He said the hospital suspects the source of the outbreak was a visitor to the ward who had the norovirus.

Source: <http://the.honoluluadvertiser.com/article/2007/May/02/br/br0247916583.html>

29. *May 02, University of Florida* — **University of Florida student among confirmed measles cases.** The Alachua County, FL, Health Department on Tuesday confirmed, May 1, three cases of measles, one of which involves a University of Florida (UF) student. The student received a waiver from showing proof of immunization against measles for religious reasons. Some UF students have received waivers for medical reasons as well. Additionally, because the student had contact with the Hare Krishnas who serve lunch at the Plaza of the Americas on the UF campus, the health department has asked that group to suspend serving meals for 30 days until the danger has passed, unless they receive the immunization.

Source: <http://news.ufl.edu/2007/05/02/uf-student-among-confirmed-mesles-cases/>

30. *May 02, Chronicle (Canada)* — **Vancomycin-resistant enterococci outbreak closes three wards in Canadian hospital.** The Lakeshore General Hospital sealed off three wards after staff discovered a patient was carrying an infection-causing bacterium a few weeks ago. There are currently nine confirmed cases of Vancomycin-resistant enterococci (VRE) at the Pointe Claire institution in Canada, hospital microbiologist and infectious diseases specialist Dr. Maria Arrieta said Wednesday, May 2. "It's not a very aggressive bacteria," she said. "But should someone get sick with it, it would be typically the person who has very little defenses to fight it." VRE is found in the gut of humans and animals and can lead to urinary and other infections, she said. West Island Health and Social Services Network spokesperson Louis-Pascal Cyr said 77 other patients have been exposed to the antibiotic-resistant germ. They have been regrouped into two of the closed wards. He said patients colonized by the germ do not show symptoms, making it a challenge for hospital staff to determine who has it. Meanwhile, every patient in the hospital — more than 200 — is being tested for VRE, but results could take weeks to come in, Cyr said.

Source: <http://www.westislandchronicle.com/article-100438-Germ-outbreak-closes-three-LGH-wards.html>

31. *April 27, University of Wisconsin-Madison* — **Arming the fight against resistant bacteria.** In 1928, Alexander Fleming opened the door to treating bacterial infections when he stumbled upon the first known antibiotic in a *Penicillium* mold growing in a discarded experiment. Nearly eight decades later, chemist Helen Blackwell and her research team at the University of Wisconsin-Madison have devised a more deliberate method to tackle a newer bacterial conundrum — resistance to commonly used antibiotics. Early tests of their tool, called a "small-molecule macroarray," have already identified four promising new compounds with preliminary antibacterial activity comparable to that of some of the most potent antibiotics currently available. Their findings are reported in the April 27 issue of the journal *Chemistry and Biology*. "Dr. Blackwell's research introduces a clever method for rapid screening and offers hope for the discovery of new classes of antibiotics. This is an area of critical importance as bacteria continue to develop resistance faster than scientists are able to develop new drugs to defeat them," says Kenneth M. Doxsee, program officer for the National Science Foundation's organic synthesis program.

Abstract: <http://www.chembiol.com/content/article/abstract?uid=PIIS1074552107001019&highlight=blackwell>

Source: <http://www.news.wisc.edu/13729>

[[Return to top](#)]

Government Sector

32. *May 02, New Mexican* — **Two Santa Fe schools lockdown after explosives found.** At least two Santa Fe public schools were on lockdown Wednesday morning, May 2, after a small homemade explosive device detonated at De Vargas Middle School. No injuries have been reported and there was no damage to property from the suspected bomb made of dry ice, according to Santa Fe public schools spokesperson Gerard Martinez. Students from De Vargas were gathered on the football field and police and SWAT team members searching the school

this morning. Students and teachers at Santa Fe High School, just a block away from De Vargas, were also locked in buildings and classrooms as a precaution.

Source: <http://www.freewmexican.com/news/61092.html>

[\[Return to top\]](#)

Emergency Services Sector

33. *May 02, Contra Costa Times (CA)* — California counties team up for unified radio system.

In California, Alameda and Contra Costa counties' officials moved a step closer Tuesday, May 1, to eliminating potential communication breakdowns during the next Bay Area disaster. The boards of supervisors of both counties approved the formation of a joint powers authority between the counties that would manage the implementation and operation of the digital regional radio system. This system would allow public safety agencies in both counties to communicate directly with each other via radio. Although such communication may seem fundamental, it's rarely the case in either county. There are a handful of different radio systems emergency services in use in the East Bay, none of which is easily compatible with each other. The new East Bay Regional Communications System joint powers authority will consist of a 23-member board of directors made up of representatives from a variety of public safety agencies and cities in both counties, as well as officials from the counties themselves.

Source: http://www.contracostatimes.com/news/ci_5799608

34. *May 02, Branson Daily News (MO)* — Missouri lags in 911 service. Across the nation, Missouri's emergency service is considered to be among the worst in allowing 911 operators to determine a caller's location, but local officials say things are getting better. Throughout most of the country, it is assumed that when someone picks up a wireline phone that the caller will be able to connect to a local 911 system, so most of the attention has focused on upgrading existing systems to handle wireless and Internet calls. "We are almost to that point," Taney County 911 Administrator Tammy Hagler said of being able to track the location of people calling 911 by their cell phones. According to March data from the National Emergency Number Association, Missouri is tied with Montana and Nebraska for having the most counties unable to track the origin of 911 calls from landline telephones. An Associated Press review of data from the state, trade groups and a consultant's report shows that roughly 20 percent of Missouri's counties do not have a fully functioning system for even landline telephones, and fewer than one-third of Missouri counties can track a cell phone caller's location.

Source: <http://www.bransondailynews.com/story.php?storyID=3678>

[\[Return to top\]](#)

Information Technology and Telecommunications Sector

35. *May 03, Government Computer News* — West Point takes first in annual Cyber Defense Exercise. Cadets at the U.S. Military Academy at West Point won their third Cyber Defense Exercise this month, building and successfully defending a network against red team attacks to beat out teams from the nation's four other service academies. The exercise, held April 16–20, pitted student teams from West Point and the Air Force, Naval, Coast Guard and Merchant

Marine academies against attackers from the National Security Agency and the Defense Department. The exercise is the culmination of information assurance classes for cadets and midshipmen in computer science and electrical engineering departments. It is a learning experience as much as a test. Each team had to build and maintain a virtual network that includes a Web server providing dynamic content from a back-end database, an e-mail server with public-key encryption, chat service, file sharing and a Domain Name System server for name resolution. Because of the growing interest in the exercise, a steering group of information security specialists has been formed to establish a framework for a national Cyber Defense Exercise that would include state universities.

Source: http://www.gcn.com/online/vol1_no1/44202-1.html

- 36. May 02, *Internetnews.com* — Botnet expedition reveals corporate weaknesses.** It has long been assumed that corporate computers are relatively free of bots, pieces of malicious code hidden on a computer without the owner's knowledge to perform spamming or other undesirable activities. Support Intelligence (SI), a network security company in San Francisco, has been running what it called "30 Days of Bots," featuring corporate networks infected with spam-churning bots. It began analyzing data in February, monitoring 10,000 domains that plow data into a trap much like a fishnet, except the intelligence in the data is designed to determine what information to keep by looking for spam. Forrester Research security analyst Natalie Lambert said in an e-mail to internetnews.com: "Enterprises do not have the necessary protections in place to mitigate today's threat landscape. Enterprises need full-suite solutions that include anti-malware, personal firewalls and some sort of behavior detection." SI CEO Rick Wesson said the worst offenders are ISPs, followed by university networks. But beneath the ISPs, SI began finding corporate IP addresses in its fishing.

Source: <http://www.internetnews.com/security/article.php/3675331>

Internet Alert Dashboard

To report cyber infrastructure incidents or to request information, please contact US-CERT at soc@us-cert.gov or visit their Website: www.us-cert.gov.

Information on IT information sharing and analysis can be found at the IT ISAC (Information Sharing and Analysis Center) Website: <https://www.it-isac.org/>.

[\[Return to top\]](#)

Commercial Facilities/Real Estate, Monument & Icons Sector

Nothing to report.

[\[Return to top\]](#)

General Sector

Nothing to report.

[\[Return to top\]](#)

DHS Daily Open Source Infrastructure Report Contact Information

[DHS Daily Open Source Infrastructure Reports](#) – The DHS Daily Open Source Infrastructure Report is a daily [Monday through Friday] summary of open–source published information concerning significant critical infrastructure issues. The DHS Daily Open Source Infrastructure Report is archived for ten days on the Department of Homeland Security Website: <http://www.dhs.gov/iaipdailyreport>

DHS Daily Open Source Infrastructure Report Contact Information

Content and Suggestions:

Send mail to dhsdailyadmin@mail.dhs.osis.gov or contact the DHS Daily Report Team at (703) 983–3644.

Subscription and Distribution Information:

Send mail to dhsdailyadmin@mail.dhs.osis.gov or contact the DHS Daily Report Team at (703) 983–3644 for more information.

Contact DHS

To report physical infrastructure incidents or to request information, please contact the National Infrastructure Coordinating Center at nicc@dhs.gov or (202) 282–9201.

To report cyber infrastructure incidents or to request information, please contact US–CERT at soc@us-cert.gov or visit their Web page at www.us-cert.gov.

Department of Homeland Security Disclaimer

The DHS Daily Open Source Infrastructure Report is a non–commercial publication intended to educate and inform personnel engaged in infrastructure protection. Further reproduction or redistribution is subject to original copyright restrictions. DHS provides no warranty of ownership of the copyright, or accuracy with respect to the original source material.